

Sub B2  
A2

24. (Amended) A treatment process for improving the cell respiration and/or for reducing the desquamation of a keratin material and/or for preventing a keratin material from becoming dull and/or dirty comprising applying to the keratin material a composition comprising a pollutant penetration limiting effective amount of phytanetriol in a physiologically acceptable medium.

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Please cancel claims 25 and 32-36 without prejudice.

#### SUPPORT FOR AMENDMENTS

Support for the amendments to claims 1, 23 and 24 can be found, *inter alia*, at page 16, line 10 through page 17, line 3. Claims 25 and 32-36 have been canceled. Accordingly, claims 1-24 and 26-31 are currently pending.

#### REMARKS

The pending claims relate to methods of protecting keratin materials from the harmful effects of pollution or to methods of improving cell respiration, reducing desquamation, and/or preventing keratin materials from becoming dull and/or dirty by limiting pollutant penetration to keratin materials. The phrase "pollutant penetration limiting effective amount" means that the identified active ingredient in the claims, phytanetriol, is applied in an amount to prevent the adhesion or adsorption of pollutants on skin, thereby keeping pollutants off the skin and preventing the pollutants from penetrating into the skin. None of the cited references teaches or suggests such novel methods, or the benefits or mechanisms associated with these methods. Accordingly, the claimed methods represent an advance in the art and should be allowed to issue.